

7 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

This chapter of the Coon Rapids Comprehensive Plan provides an inventory, needs assessment, and plans for the City's community facilities. These facilities include the police station, fire stations, Public Works facilities, library, community center, City Hall, other government buildings, and communications infrastructure.

INVENTORY

The table below lists the various community facilities and information concerning their condition and needs.

TABLE 7-1 Community Facilities

FACILITY	LOCATION	AGE/YEAR BUILT	CONDITION	NEEDS
City Hall	11155 Robinson Dr	1996	Good	New roof. Covered parking for police and inspections vehicles.
Civic Center	11155 Robinson Dr	1996	Good	None
Police Station	11155 Robinson Dr	1996	Good	Covered parking deck for police department vehicles.
Fire Station 1	1460 Egret Blvd.	1995	Good	Concrete floor replacement. Fiber optic connections to city hall and city network.
Fire Station 2	1199 121st Ave NW.	1998	Excellent	Concrete floor replacement. Fiber optic connections to city hall and city network.
Fire Station 3	2831 113th Ave. NW	1970, major remodel in 1998	Good	Apparatus floor replacement and addition for trailers (6 stalls). Fiber optic connections to city hall and city network.
Crooked Lake Branch Library (Anoka County)	11440 Crooked Lake Blvd.	1965, major remodel in 1986	Moderate or Fair	There are several needs to be addressed. Planning Commission, City Council, and residents expressed a desire for a larger "regional" type of facility.
Public Works Garage, Storage Facility and Offices	1831 111 th Ave. NW	1996 with major upgrades in 2002 and 2006	Excellent	Parking paving. Landscaping. Addition of space for 40-50 impounded vehicles.

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FACILITY	LOCATION	AGE/YEAR BUILT	CONDITION	NEEDS
CTN (cable television) Studios	11215 Robinson Drive	2000	Excellent	No building needs.
Bunker Hills Park Regional Compost Site (Anoka County)	133 rd Av and Zilla St.	20+ years	Unknown	None, unless County decides to use site more intensively for other functions.
Wi-Fi and Fiber Optic Infrastructure	City wide	In process of being built	New	Provide service to business areas and possibly residential uses in the future.
Coon Rapids High School	2340 Northdale Blvd.	1963, 1968, 1974, 1991		
Coon Rapids Middle School	11600 Raven St. NW	1958, 1968, 1974, 1977, 2001, 1965		
Northdale Middle School	11301 Dogwood St. NW	1975, 1986, 1989, 2001, 2002		
Morris Bye ES	11931 Crooked Lake Blvd.	1955, 1960, 1963, 1965, 2001		
Hamilton ES	1374-111 th Av NW	1964		
Sand Creek ES	12156 Olive St NW	1965		
Mississippi ES	10620 Direct Drive	1961, 2001		
Adams ES	8989 Sycamore St NW	1966		
Eisenhower ES	151 Northdale Blvd	1970		
Sorteberg ES	11400 Magnolia St NW	1960, 2002, 2004		
Hoover ES	2369-109 th Av NW	1966, 2001		
L.O. Jacob ES	1700 Coon Rapids Blvd	1921, 1941, 1951, 1956, 1966, 1978		
Crossroads AS	1313 Coon Rapids Blvd			
Bell Center AS	1374 Northdale Blvd	1964, 1966, 1969, 2002		

The school information is included for information only. The City has no jurisdiction over these facilities.

The facilities in the table above, other than Wi-Fi and fiber optics and the schools, are shown on Map CF-1.

NEEDS

City Hall - The building was constructed in 1996. Major roof repairs were completed in 2006. However, a complete new roof may be necessary. In addition, there is a need for a covered parking deck to the rear of the building to primarily shelter police department vehicles. Inspections' vehicles could also benefit from a covered parking deck.

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Civic Center – The Civic Center is adjacent to the City Hall building. It contains meeting rooms and kitchen facilities. The center is used heavily by senior citizens in the daytime. The facility provides meeting space for scouts, youth groups, and other organizations in the evening. There are no gymnasium or locker facilities in the Civic Center space.

Community Center - The City has been studying the feasibility of developing a community center in conjunction with a replacement ice arena for the aging Cook Ice Arena. It was built in 1973 and has projected repair costs of more than one million dollars. The City is exploring a partnership with Anoka Ramsey Community College in the development of a new community center which could contain meeting rooms and athletic facilities, in addition to the replacement ice arena.

CTN Cable Studios – The City's cable TV studio was built in 2000. The studio is in excellent condition. No studio capital improvements are envisioned.

Fire Stations – The City has three fire stations. All three have been built or received major remodeling since 1995. Despite being relatively new, all the stations need floor replacements and additions of fiber optic connections to the City network.

Police Station – The police station is adjacent to City Hall. It was built in 1996 at the same time as City Hall. No improvements are anticipated for this facility other than the aforementioned covered parking deck.

Public Works Garage, Storage Facilities and Offices – The Public Works garage and offices on 111th Avenue were built in the mid 1990s and upgraded in 2002 and 2006 with office remodeling and additional garage space so that there is 40,000 sq. ft. of indoor space for equipment. Paving of the parking area and landscaping improvements are needed. Additional space may also be needed to provide for 40 to 50 impounded vehicles.

Compost Site - Anoka County operates a leaf and grass recycling facility within the City boundaries. The County has no immediate plans to remove the facility. However, that could change if the County decides to use the facility for a more active use. In that case, Coon Rapids residents would not have a convenient composting site unless it was relocated relatively close.

Crooked Lake Branch Library – Anoka County operates the local library system. There is one facility in Coon Rapids and three more within a mile of the City boundaries. Improvements are planned for the Crooked Lake Branch Library.

School Facilities –Anoka Hennepin School District No. 11 has one high school, two middle schools, two alternative schools, and nine elementary schools within the City of

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Coon Rapids. Some of the older, smaller elementary schools may be candidates for closure if School District revenues cannot keep pace with operating demands.

Wireless Fidelity Infrastructure and Fiber Optic Network – Fiber optic is the communications mode of the future. Other countries in Europe and Asia are expanding their systems much faster than the United States. Our students are failing to keep pace with students in other countries seeking science and engineering degrees. Our companies are in danger of falling behind other global companies if state-of-the-art fiber optics and broadband communications systems are not expanded rapidly. Increasingly, the United States is not looked at by the brightest young entrepreneurs as the place to be to start a business that might eventually create thousands of jobs. Local governments need to show their support for installation of ultra-fast (1 gigabit access) data transfer.

Fiber optic trunk lines are provided by Comcast Communications and Access Communications. Access Communications has connected all the schools within the City. There will likely be a time when this mode is available for households. The City will be investigating the timing and ways to provide this medium.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

Goal #1: Location - Community facilities that provide convenient locations and services to Coon Rapids residents.

Objectives:

- 1-1. Relatively short distances to facilities.
- 1-2. Up-to-date, state-of-the-art facilities.
- 1-3. Equity of service between various parts of the City.

Policies:

- 1-1. Maintain the three fire stations so that the buildings are safe and maintenance is not deferred to a point where major investment will be needed to rehabilitate the buildings.
- 1-2. Provide reliable, high-speed communications connections for computers and phones between all fire stations, the Police Department, and City Hall.
- 1-3. Upgrade communications infrastructure in City Hall.
- 1-4. Support the retention of Anoka County's Crooked Lake Branch Library in the City of Coon Rapids.

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- 1-5. Maintain city hall in its existing location.
- 1-6. Advocate for relocation of Anoka County's compost facility and shooting range at 133rd Avenue and Zilla Street to allow for a park use that is more compatible with Bunker Hills Regional Park and Golf Course.
- 1-7. Accept the closure of elementary schools that are the oldest and/or located adjacent to arterial streets, if the School Board determines that some schools must be closed in the City, provided that some open space is preserved on the school site.
- 1-8. Seek voter approval of a new community center if it is shown that a new facility is warranted.

Goal #2: Fiber Optics and Broadband – State-of-the-art fiber optic and broadband service that allows Coon Rapids companies and residents to compete with others in the world that have benefited from the rapid advance of fiber optic and broadband technologies.

Objective:

- 2-1. A community that is first rate in access to high speed data transmission.

Policies:

- 2-1. Investigate installation of a public wireless fidelity network that provides service at a lower cost than provided by the private sector so that all persons have affordable, high-speed access to the Internet.
- 2-2. Encourage expansion of the private fiber optics networks in the City.
- 2-3. Support 1 Gigabit access to City residents and businesses by 2015.
- 2-4. Rally additional private sector support by providing information concerning the need to expand fiber optic and broadband access.
- 2-5. Educate state legislators and promote fiber optics and broadband in future legislative sessions.

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PLAN

Map CF-2 shows the location of major public improvements to the City's community facilities that are planned for the future.

IMPLEMENTATION

Capital Improvement Program - The primary means of implementation of the *Community Facilities Plan* is the City's capital improvement program.

Operating Budget – Maintenance of the existing facilities is accomplished through the annual operations budget.

Advocacy – The City will establish or continue a dialogue with the County Library Board and fiber optics companies to maintain and upgrade their facilities. The City will also work closely with the School District concerning any need to balance budgets by closing schools.